

52 BIG PAGES *Starring* **BLACK RIDER!**

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NO.
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**THE BLACK
RIDER!**

BLACK RIDER

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IN THIS ISSUE!
**THE BLACK RIDER
RIDES AGAIN!**

**THE STORY YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR! THE AMAZING SECRET BEHIND
THE ORIGIN OF THE BLACK RIDER! WHO HE REALLY WAS! WHERE HE
CAME FROM! NOW HE BECAME THE MOST FAMOUS FIGHTING COWBOY
IN THE HISTORY OF THE WEST!**

"THE LEGEND OF THE BLACK RIDER!"



**ALSO: CAN THE
BLACK RIDER SAVE
MARIE LATHROP FROM**

**THE SILENT
KILLER!**

**ONWARD SATAN!
BEFORE WE'RE TOO
LATE!**



DAWSON, NOTHING ON
EARTH CAN KEEP ME
FROM YOU! THE BLACK
RIDER HAS SWORN THAT
YOU'LL PAY FOR
YOUR DEEDS!

I WARNED YOU
IT WOULD BE
SUICIDE TO COME
HERE ALONE, BLACK
RIDER! THE BOYS
HAVE A WELCOME
FOR YOU! GIVE IT
TO HIM, BOYS!

SEE HOW
The
**BLACK
RIDER**
CARRIES OUT
AN OATH SWORN
IN
BLOOD!



BLACK RIDER

MYSTERY MAN OF THE WESTERN RANGE!



THRU THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF THE WEST, FROM THE RIO GRANDE TO THE ROCKIES, FROM THE PANHANDLE TO THE GOLD COAST, THE MYSTERIOUS "BLACK RIDER" IS THE MOST FAMOUS COWBOY SINCE BILLY THE KID!!! HIS STRENGTH, HIS COURAGE, AND DEEDS HAVE LIVED IN THE HEARTS OF ALL AMERICA... AND HIS NAME HAS BECOME A LEGEND! NOW, IN ANSWER TO YOUR THOUSANDS OF LETTERS, WE PRESENT THE THRILLING TALE OF HOW THAT LEGEND WAS BORN!

IN A ROCK-STREWN ARROYO TWO MEN AND A BOY,
LUNGS SHOKED WITH GUN-POWDER, HOLD OFF AN AT-
TACKING CREW OF GUN-CRAZED RUSTLERS...

THEY'RE COMING IN FAST!
ARE YOU DOING ANY GOOD WITH
THAT WINCHESTER, LATHROP?
MY SIX-GUNS AREN'T EFFECTIVE
AT THIS RANGE!

MY EYES AIN'T
WHAT THEY USED
TO BE. I'LL
RELOAD FOR YOU
IF YOU RECKON
YOU CAN PICK
SOME OF THEM
YARMINTS OFF!



THUNDERING HOOF'S SHAKE THE EARTH WITHIN YARDS
OF THE STEEL-NERVED TWO... CLOSER... CLOSER...
CLOSER... AND THEN...

NOW! GIVE 'EM HOLY HANNAH, BOYS!
MELT THOSE BARRELS!



HOLD YOUR FIRE! THEY'RE TRYING
AN OLD COMANCHE ATTACK, FIGGERING
WE'LL PANIC AND BREAK BEFORE THEY
REACH US! LET'S SURPRISE 'EM!



GRAB THE WINCHESTER,
LATHROP! MY SIX-GUNS CAN
FALAWER IN MIGHTY CONVINCING
LINGO AT THIS RANGE!



THAT TAKES CARE
OF THE LAST
OF THEM!



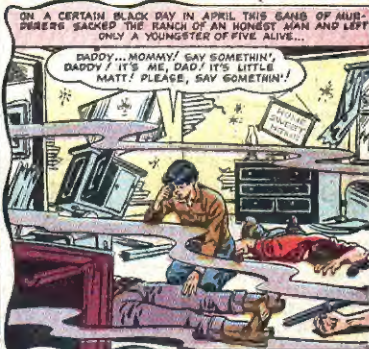
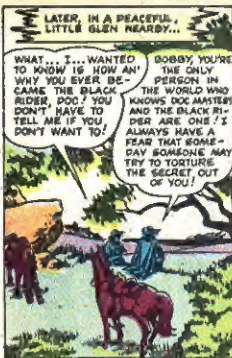
THEY... JUST
KEEY... COMIN'.
THE MURDERIN'
BUZZARDS! WE'RE
DOWN-RIGHT
GRATEFUL FER
YOUR HELP
BLACK RIDER!

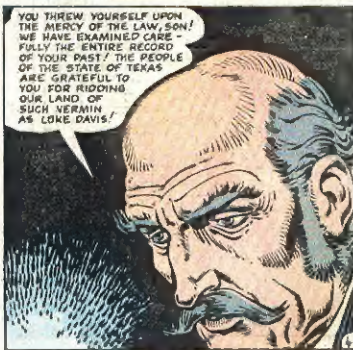
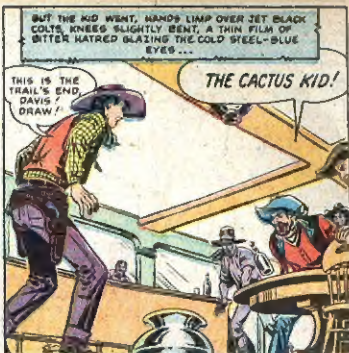
THEY WHO LIVE
BY THE SWORD
SO SHALL THEY
DIE BY THE
SWORD! DO
THOSE WORDS
ALSO APPLY TO
ME? I
WONDER...

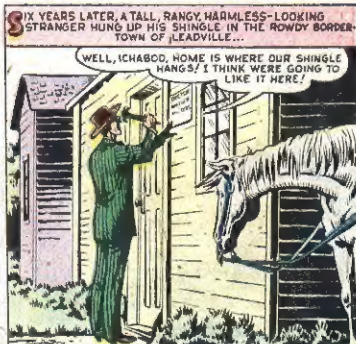
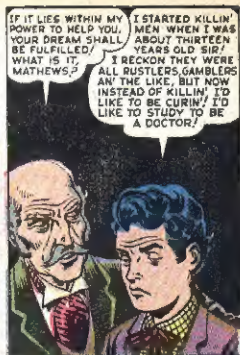
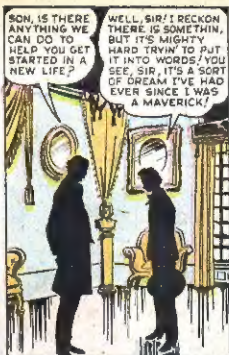


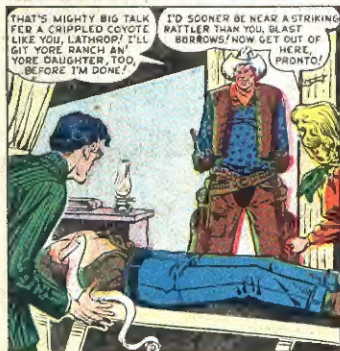
YOU COMIN' BACK TO THE RANCH,
BOBBY?

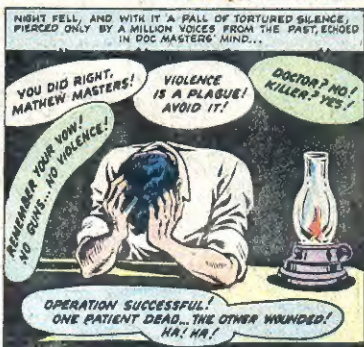
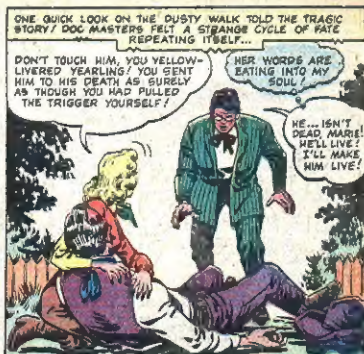
LATER, IF I MAY,
DAD! I'D LIKE TO HANG
AROUND WITH BLACK
RIDER A WHILE! MAYBE
WE'LL RIDE BACK
TOGETHER!











THAT RUTHLESS DEVIL WILL KILL LATHROP IN HIS SICK BED JUST AS HE KILLED CHARLIE MADDUCK IN MY OFFICE! THE GIRL WILL BE AT HIS MERCY ALSO! I CAN'T LET IT HAPPEN!



THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY I CAN KEEP MY OATH AND MY TRUE IDENTITY AS DOC MASTERS: A SECRET AND STILL DEAL OUT JUSTICE TO VULTURES LIKE BLAST BURROWS!



SECONDS LATER, A SHADY FIGURE BEGAN A SYSTEMATIC SEARCH IN THE DARK RECESSES OF THE LEADVILLE GENERAL STORE...

BLACK WILL BE MY COLOR! BLACK CAPE, GLOVES, MASK, SOMBRERO! BLACK AS THE NIGHT I'LL RIDE IN! BLACK AS THE VENGEANCE I FEEL IN MY HEART!



I LEFT MORE THAN ENOUGH MONEY TO PAY FOR THESE THINGS! ALL I NEED NOW ARE MY GUNS... THE LAST AND ONLY MOMENTS OF THE PAST WHICH I KEPT!



AND MINUTES LATER, A GHOST-LIKE, ARHAPSODY IN BLACK FUSED ITSELF INTO THE NIGHT LIKE AN ETRIE SHADOW...

THOSE HOURS I SPENT TEACHING SATAN TO ACT LIKE A BROKEN DOWN CAYUSE WILL COME IN HANDY NOW! WE'LL PLAY OUR DUAL ROLES TOGETHER!



PICK-UP YOUR HEAD AND ACT NATURAL, FELLOW! THE MASQUERADE IS OVER! WE'RE RIDING THE PLAINS AGAIN, BOY!



THE MIGHTY CHARGER SHOOK OFF HIS PRACTICED POSE OF INDIFFERENCE AND ANTIQUITY IN ONE QUIVERING SHUDDER OF HIS POWER--PACKED MUSCLES, AS MEMORIES OF PAST ADVENTURES CURSED THROUGH HIS VEINS AND ELECTRIFIED EVEN HIS MASTER!



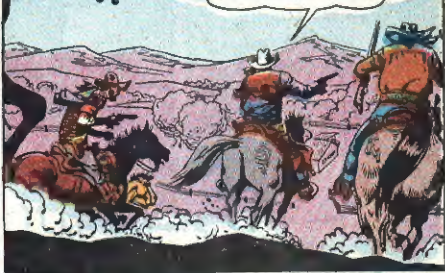
THE BLACK CLOUD OF IMPENDING DOOM WHICH THREATENED THE LATHROP RANCH LENT WINGS TO THE GROUND-DEVOURING HOOFS OF THE THUNDERING CHARGER AS HIS MASTER URGED HIM ON!

DIG IN, BOY! PRECIOUS LIVES DEPEND ON YOU! HIT YOUR STRIDE, SATAN!



MEANWHILE, LIKE A HORDE OF MARAUDING LOCUSTS, THE BURROWS GANG BEGAN A SURGING SWEEP TOWARDS THE LATHROP RANCH...

GIT GOIN', MEN! DON'T LEAVE A TIMBER STANDIN'! KILL 'EM ALL BUT THE GAL, AN' LEAVE HER FOR ME!



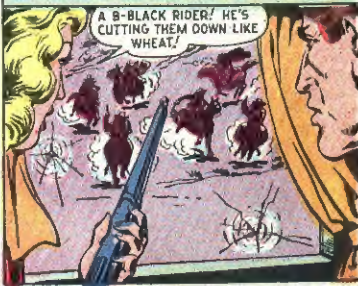
IT'S BLAST BURROWS! THEY'RE COMING DOWN AT US FAST!

WE'RE SUNK! BURN UP EVERY GUN WE'VE GOT ON THEM! THEY'LL KNOW THEY WERE IN A FIGHT BEFORE THEY GIT US!

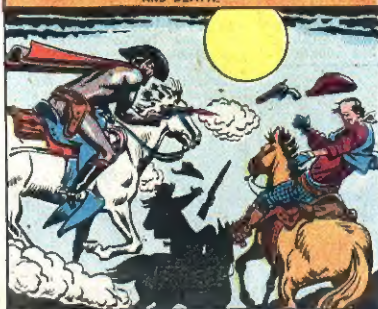


SUDDENLY, THE STARTLED EYES OF THE BESEIGED LITTLE GARRISON OF HARDY SOULS SAW A BLACK MIRAGE OF FIGHTING FURY BLAZE A PATH OF DEATH AMONGST THE ATTACKING KILLERS...

A B-B-BLACK RIDER! HE'S CUTTING THEM DOWN LIKE WHEAT!



NO LIKE WHEAT THEY FELL BEFORE HIS SPITTING BLACK GUNS, LIKE CHAFF BEFORE THE WIND THEY SCATTERED IN TERROR AND DEATH!

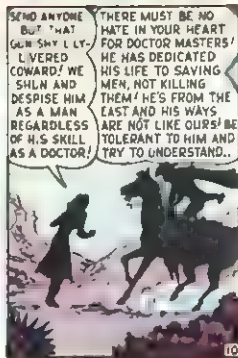
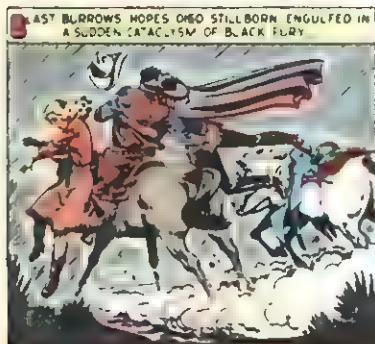
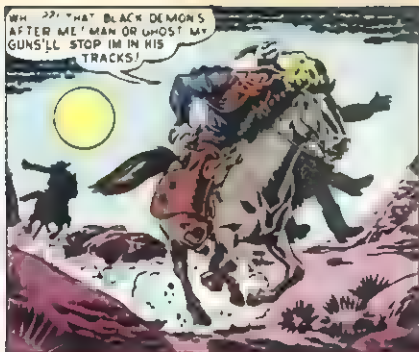
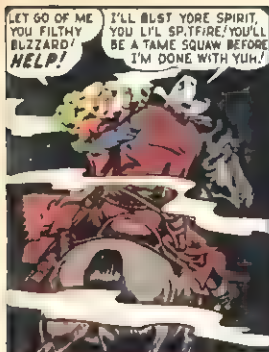


ONLY ONE REACHED THE RANCHHOUSE ALIVE... BLAST BURROWS!

GIT READY TO TRAVEL, MARIE! I'VE COME FOR YUH!

BANG!





HE MUST
YOU GO
NOW? I
WILL WE
MEET
AGAIN
SIR!

WHENEVER THERE IS TROUBLE I'LL BE
AROUND! WHENEVER INJUSTICE AND
VIOLENCE REAR THEIR HEADS,
I'LL BE THERE! ADIOS,
SEÑORITA!



AN HOUR LATER...

IT'S TAKEN YOU HOURS TO GET
HERE WHILE MEN LIE TWISTED
WITH PAIN! DID A JACKRABBIT
SCARE YOU, DOCTOR?



I'M SORRY MISS MARIE!
MY HORSE CAN'T TRAVEL
VERY FAST AND I'M
NOT MUCH OF A
RIDER!



AFTER TENDING THE WOUNDED,
THE MILD-MANNERED DOCTOR
STEPPED SADLY TO THE PORCH...

MISS MARIE, THE BLACK RIDER
COULD YOU
FIND IT IN
YOUR HEART
TO EXCUSE MY
SEEMINGLY
COWARDLY
ACTIONS?

HE SPOKE HIGHLY OF
YOU AS A DOCTOR
AND A MAN! YOU
MAY COME HERE
TO TEND THE ILL
AND WOUNDED...
BUT THAT'S ALL!
GOOD BYE



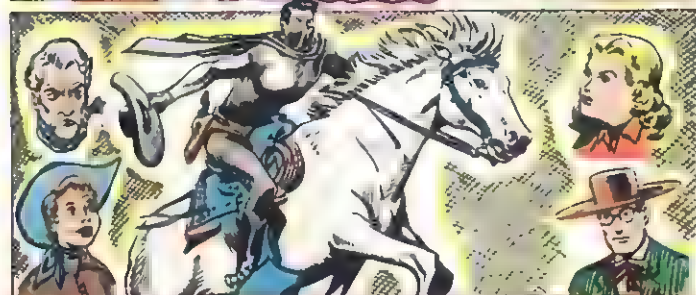
WHY WAS I SO CRUEL TO HIM? HE
SEEMS SO GENTLE, KIND AND
THOUGHTFUL! I COULD ALMOST
LIKE HIM... IF HE WERE LIKE...
LIKE THE BLACK RIDER!



WELL, THAT'S THE STORY, BOBBY! TWO
MEN KNOW IT... YOU AND I! PERHAPS
SOMEDAY YOUR SISTER, MARIE, WILL
HAVE AS MUCH REGARD
FOR DOC MASTERS AS
SHE HAS FOR THE
BLACK RIDER!



WELL, DON'T
YUM WORRY
NONE IF SHE DON'T!
I AIN'T NO SIBBY,
BUT I SHORE REGARD
YUH ENOUGH FER
THE WHOLE
DURNED FAMILY!



AND SO THE CHARACTERS IN FATE'S GAME OF ADVENTURE WERE ARRANGED! EACH GOES HIS OR HER
OWN WAY, EACH WITH HIS OWN THOUGHTS, HOPES, AND DREAMS BUT ALWAYS NEAR, ALWAYS
PRESENT, IS THE SHADOW OF THE GREATEST WESTERN FIGHTER IN THE WORLD--
THE **BLACK RIDER!**

THE END

**THE
POPSICLE
HALL OF FAME**
A TRUE STORY OF
"POPSICLE" YOUTH AWARD



CARD # 18,508
WICK, A. KINGS

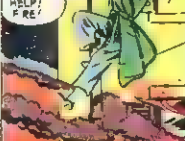
GOSH, I THOUGHT I WAS DREAMING. I DO SWEET REAL SMOKE— WHERE IS EVERYBODY?



FIRE! FIRE! STAY IN YOUR ROOMS EVERYBODY. THE STAIRWAY IS IN FLAMES— I'LL GET HELP...



DOWN THE DRAIN PIPE— IT'S THE ONLY WAY HELP! FIRE!



HOLD— KIDS, I'M COMING UP THE LADDER—



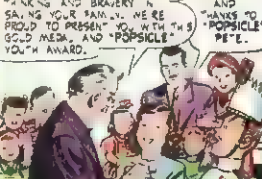
YOU KIDS BE QUIET WHILE I GET— MOM AND DAD, SURE GLAD I FOUND THIS LADDER.



HERE COMES THE FIRE ENGINE!

WE SALUTE YOU, CAROLYN WALKER. THANKS AND BRAVERY IN SAVING YOUR FAMILY. WE'RE PROUD TO PRESENT YOU WITH THE GOLD MEDAL AND "POPSICLE" YOUTH AWARD.

THANKS, MR. MAYOR AND "POPSICLE" PETE.



SAVE THE BAGS

FOR SWELL GIFTS!

AND Save ICE CREAM or ICE MILK on-a-stick BAGS that read "POPSICLE PETE" & "SAVE THESE BAGS FOR GIFTS"

QUILL PEN
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50 BAGS OR 10¢ & 10 BAGS

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DUTCH SHOES PIN
Sparkling brooch for hat, coat, dress or handbag. An ideal gift.

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Real explorer's magnetic wrist compass on plastic band. Shows you right day or night.

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400 West Ohio St., Chicago 10, Ill.
2744 East 11 Street, Los Angeles 23, Cal.
313 N. Highland Ave., N.E., Atlanta, Ga.

ASK for GIANT GIFT LIST—FREE at your ice cream store, or write to "POPSICLE PETE" at address nearest you.

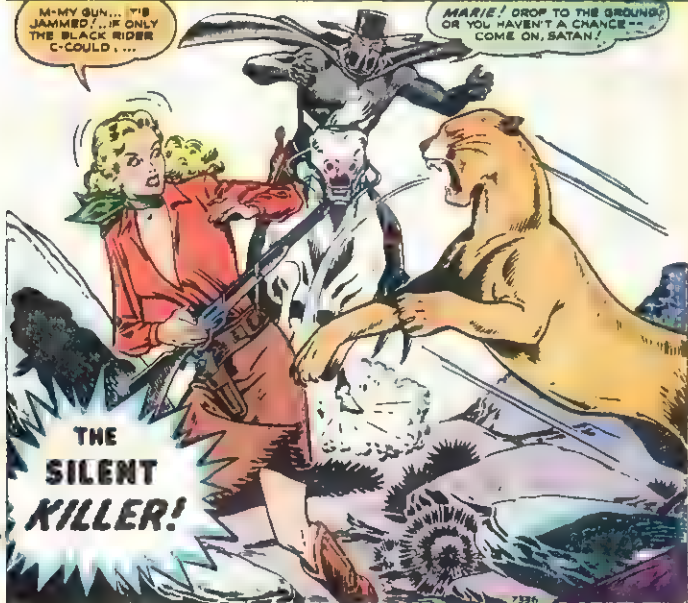
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BLACK RIDER

MYSTERY MAN OF THE WESTERN RANGE!

M-MY GUN... IT'S
JAMMED... IF ONLY
THE BLACK RIDER
COULD...

MARIE! DROP TO THE GROUND!
OR YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE--
COME ON, SATAN!



**THE
SILENT
KILLER!**

FROM OUT OF THE WESTERN
HILLS A TERRIBLE, TAWNY
SHAPE COME GLIDING TO THE
PLAINS AND THE PASTURES
ON WHICH THE LATHROP
CATTLE HERD ROAMS!



HE STRIKES! KILLING WAN-
TONLY, A KINGLY DEFIANCE
AND SHEER BLOOD LUST!
LEAVING IN HIS WAKE, A
FEAST FOR THE SCARING,
HAPPY VULTURES!

AT THE LATHROP RANCH...

I'LL TRACK HIM DOWN,
MSS MARE! IF I DON'T
KILL HIM, HE'LL KILL
MOST OF THE CALF-
CROP! HE JUST KILLS
FOR THE SAKE O'
KILLIN'!

BE CAREFUL
TOM! WHEN A
PUMA GOES
BLOOD-LOGO
THERE'S NO
TELLIN' WHAT
HE'LL DO!



LATE THAT AFTERNOON...

WOW! LOOK AT THE SIZE OF THOSE TRACKS! HE MUST BE THE DADDY OF ALL MOUNTAIN LIONS! FRESH TOO-- CAN'T BE FAR OFF!



RECKON WE'LL SIGHT HIM SOON AN'... AUGH!

GROOOAR!



GROWLING HIS DEFIANCE THE BRUTE ATTACKS HIS ANCIENT ENEMY-- MAN! HIS SWIFTLY LAUNCHED BODY GIVING THE HUNTER NO TIME TO SHOOT OR PROTECT HIMSELF!

AAAAHHH!



MEANWHILE... AT THE RANCH!

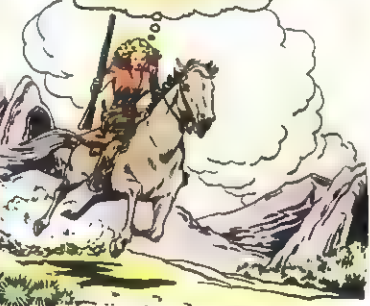
MATT! SADDLE UP MY MARE WILL YOU? I'M WORRIED ABOUT TOM! GUESS I'LL TAKE A LOOK IN THE EAST PASTURE WHERE HE WAS HEADED FOR!



WATCH YOURSELF, MISS MARIE! I WOULDN'T GAMBLE ON THAT BIG CAT RUNNIN' FROM A HUMAN LIKE MOST OF 'EM WOULD!

AN HOUR LATER MARIE STRIKES THE HUNTER'S TRAIL!

THAT'S TOM'S TRAIL ALL RIGHT! I SHOULD SIGHT HIM SOON!



THEN... AS DUSK IS FALLING!

OH, IT'S TOM! I HAD A FEELING THIS WOULD HAPPEN!



HE'S STILL BREATHING BUT I'M AFRAID TO MOVE HIM! I'LL RIDE INTO LEADVILLE FOR DOC MASTERS... IF HE ISN'T AFRAID TO RIDE BACK HERE IN THE DARK!



URGED BY THE FRANTIC GIRL, THE MARE DRIVES INTO TOWN WITH THE MOONRISE!





YES, WHAT IS IT?
OH IT'S YOU MARIE!
WHAT'S THE
TROUBLE?

ONE OF MY HANDS, TOM
GATELY, TANGLED
WITH A PUMA! HE'S
BADLY HURT AND I
WAS AFRAID TO
MOVE HIM, SO YOU'LL
HAVE TO RIDE
BACK WITH ME!



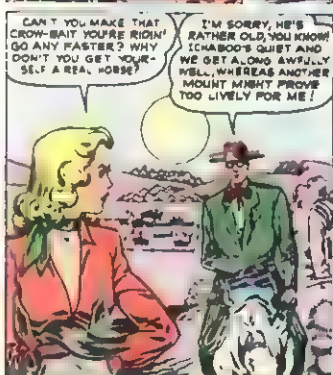
IF-- IF YOU THINK
THE PUMA MAY
STILL BE THERE,
I'LL WELL I GUESS
IT'S MY DUTY AS A
DOCTOR TO GO ANY-
WAY! I'LL JOIN
YOU IN A
MINUTE!

HURRY,
DOC.
HURRY!



WELL... I GUESS
WE'D BETTER
GET GOING-- I
HOPE THE
PUMA IS GONE!

DON'T BE SUCH
A SNIVELING
COWARD! I'LL
PROTECT YOU!
COME ON!



CAN'T YOU MAKE THAT
CROW-BAIT YOUR RIDIN'
GO ANY FASTER? WHY
DON'T YOU GET YOUR-
SELF A REAL HORSE?

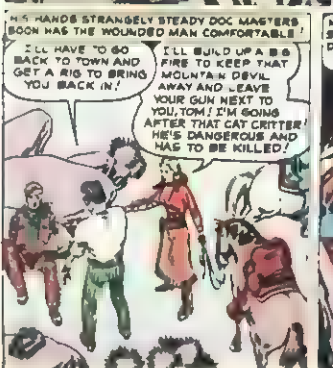
I'M SORRY, HE'S
RATHER OLD, YOU KNOW!
ICHABOOD'S QUIET AND
WE GET ALONG AWFULLY
WELL, WHEREAS ANOTHER
MOUNT MIGHT PROVE
TOO LIVELY FOR ME!



AN HOUR LATER...

LOOK, DOC, YOU TEND TO
TOM AND I'LL STAND
GUARD! I DON'T WANT
YOU SHAKIN' SO BAD
FROM FRIGHT THAT
YOU CAN'T HELP
THAT BOY!

I-- I ASSURE YOU I'LL
ASSUME MY DUTIES QUITE
CALMLY. I JUST WISH I
COULD BE SURE THAT
COUGAR HAD
GONE AWAY!



HIS HANDS STRANGELY STEADY DOC MASTERS
SOON HAS THE WOUNDED MAN COMFORTABLE!

I'LL HAVE TO GO
BACK TO TOWN AND
GET A RIG TO BRING
YOU BACK IN!

I'LL BUILD UP A BIG
FIRE TO KEEP THAT
MOUNTAIN DEVIL
AWAY AND LEAVE
YOUR GUN NEXT TO
YOU, TOM! I'M GOING
AFTER THAT CAT CRITTER!
HE'S DANGEROUS AND
HAS TO BE KILLED!



MISS MARIE, YOU
SHOULDN'T BE
DOIN' THAT! THAT
CAT'S BAD!

TOM IS RIGHT,
MARIE. THAT'S
A POOL-
HARDY
VENTURE!

DOC, YOU'RE THE LAST
MAN ON EARTH TO TELL
ME WHAT TO DO! YOU'RE
PROBABLY AFRAID TO
RIDE BACK TO TOWN
ALONE! ADIOS!

ONCE SHE MAKES UP HER MIND THERE AIN'T NO STOPPING HER, DOC! BUT I'M SURE WORRIED!

SO AM I, TOM! BUT THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO! I'LL GET TO TOWN AND COME BACK AS FAST AS I CAN WITH A RIG!

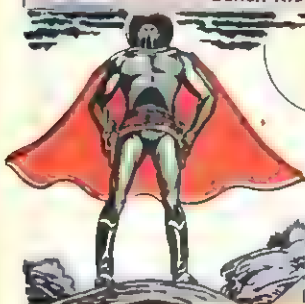


BUT ONCE OUT OF SIGHT AND SOUND OF THE INJURED MAN, DOC MASTERS REINS IN HIS SLEEPY-EYED MOUNT!

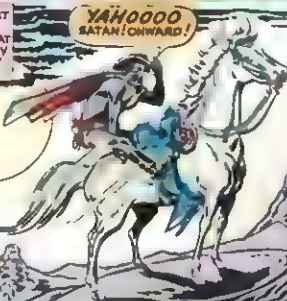
THAT BEAST WILL CREEP UP ON HER IN THE DARK AND KILL HER! ONCE THEY GET THE TASTE OF HUMAN BLOOD THEY'RE VICIOUS! THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO!



THE DOCTOR OPENS HIS MEDICAL BAG AND FROM IT TAKES A COSTUME OF BLACK! A FEW RAPID MOTIONS AND THE CHANGE IS MADE... A CHANGE THAT TURNS THE MECK MAN OF MEDICINE INTO A MIGHTY RIDER OF THE PLAINS... THE **BLACK RIDER!**



**YAHOOOO
SATAN! ONWARD!**



AND AS HE LEAPS TO THE BACK OF HIS SWAY-BACKED NAG A CHANGE COMES OVER HIS MOUNT TOO! WITH ARCHED NECK AND FLAMING NOSTRILS THE OLD WHITE HORSE IS TRANSFORMED INTO THE GREAT STALLION, **SATAN!**

THEN AS THE BLACK RIDER SWEEPS INTO THE NIGHT HE HEARS THE MADDENED SCREAM OF THE MONSTROUS MOUNTAIN LION ONLY A FEW FEET AHEAD!

THE LION! IT'S FOUND MARIE! SWIFTLY, SATAN... SWIFTLY!

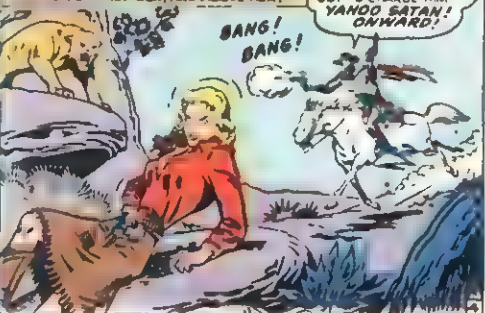
ROARRRRRR!



THE WHITE STALLION FLIES FORWARD AND THE BLACK RIDER SEES MARIE WORKING FURIOUSLY WITH HER JAMMED GUN, AND ABOVE HER!

THESE SHOTS WILL NEVER STOP HIM IN TIME! WE'VE GOT TO CHARGE HIM! **YAHOO SATAN! ONWARD!**

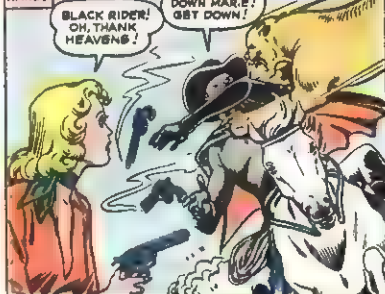
BANG! BANG!



WITH A DESPERATE LUNGE SATAN CARRIES HIS MASTER IN FRONT OF THE GIRL AND THE SNARLING CAT SMASHES INTO THE BLACK RIDER, RAKING THE DEADLY SIX-GUNS FROM HIS HAND!

BLACK RIDER!
OH, THANK
HEAVENS!

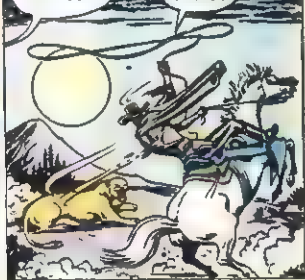
DOWN MARIE!
GET DOWN!



THE WOUNDED BEAST TURNS IN MID-AIR AND LANDS FACING THE BLACK RIDER!

LOOK OUT!
HE'S COMING
AT YOU!

BACK
AWAY,
MARIE!



A TOUCH OF THE KNEE AND SATAN DANCES TO THE SIDE AS THE LOOP SINGS OUT AND SETTLES!

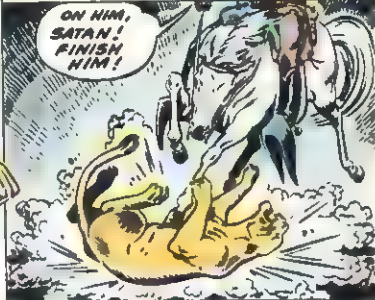
GOTCHA! YOU
MURDERING
FELINE!

ROARRR!



A FLIP OF THE LASSO AND THE GREAT BEAST DROPS HEAVILY TO THE GROUND! SATAN REARS UP, THEN DROPS HIS STEEL-SHOOD HOOPS UPON THE SNARLING COUGAR-- PUMMELING THE MONSTEROUS CAT TO DEATH!

ON HIM,
SATAN!
FINISH
HIM!



HER DANGER OVER, MARIE TELLS THE BLACK RIDER ABOUT TOM AND THE DOC, THEN HER THOUGHTS TURN TO ROMANCE... BUT...

COME ON, MARIE, I'M TAKING YOU BACK TO THE FIRE AND TOM! YOU CAN WAIT FOR THE DOC THERE!

THE DOC! HOW CAN YOU MENTION THAT COWARD-- WHEN WE'RE HERE TOGETHER IN THE MOONLIGHT!



A KISS... A TOKEN-- SO THAT YOU WON'T FORGET ME!

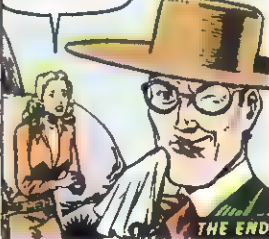
FORGET YOU? HOW COULD I FORGET THE BLACK RIDER?



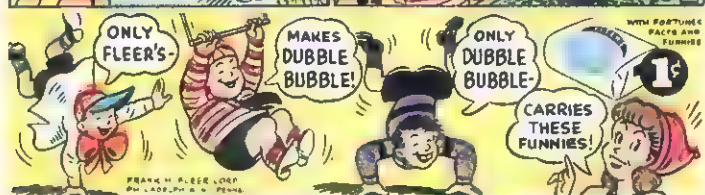
HOURS LATER!

WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU GOT HERE, DOC! THE BLACK RIDER SAVED MY LIFE, KILLED THE LION-- AND YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS-- HE KISSED ME!

I BELIEVE YOU, MARIE... I SURE DO!



THE END



BLACK RIDER

MYSTERY MAN OF THE WESTERN RANGE!



PACKRAT PETE RIDES HERD ON HIS USUAL TOPIC OF CONVERSATION, WHICH GOES INTO ONE OF DOC MASTERS' EARS... AND OUT THE OTHER!

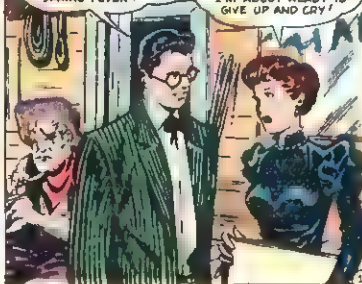
WIMMIN' JES' AIN'T NO GOOD, 'CEPTIN' FER SUCK THINGS LIKE DARNIN', COOKIN', AN' RAISIN' KIDS 'YUH WON'T FIND THE BLACK RIDER MESSIN' AROUND WITH 'EM' DOC MASTERS, ARE YE LISTENIN' TO ME?

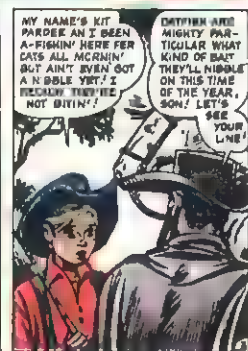
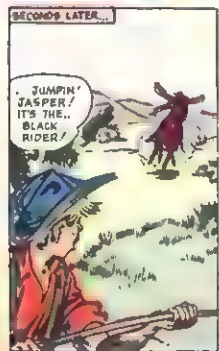
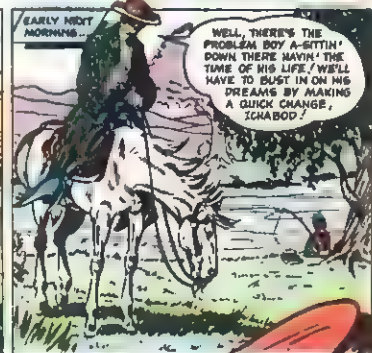
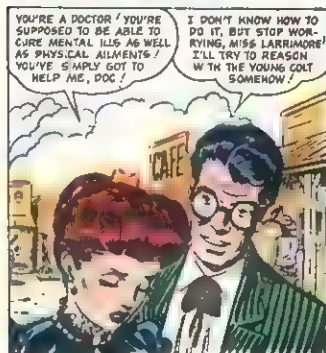
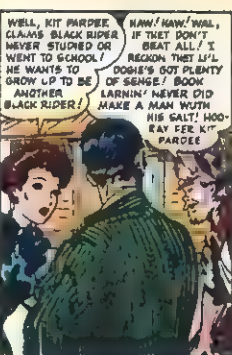
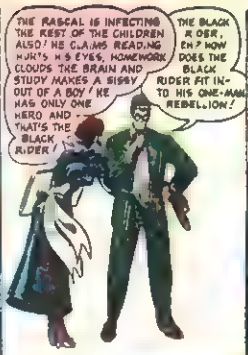
WHAT? OH, ER... WIMMIN'? YEP, I AGREE ONE HUNDRED PERCENT! THEY'RE THE CREAM OF THE EARTH! BLESS 'EM ALL! SPEAK OF ANGELS AND ONE 'S SURE TO APPEAR! HERE COMES MISS LARRIMORE, THE SCHOOL MARM!

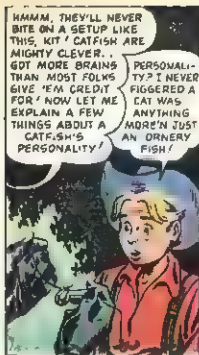


HOWDY, MISS LARRIMORE! WHAT BRINGS YOU TO TOWN -- WHOOPING COUGH, MEASLES OR SOME YOUNG RANNY WITH SPRING FEVER?

IT'S A LOT MORE SERIOUS THAN THAT, DOC! I'M HAVING A TERRIBLE TIME WITH THE PARDEE BOY! I'M ABOUT READY TO GIVE UP AND CRY!

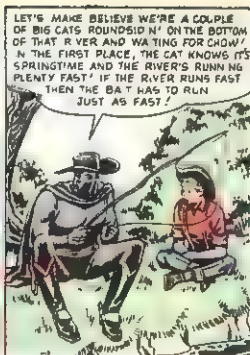






HMMM, THEY'LL NEVER BITE ON A SETUP LIKE THIS, KIT! CATFISH ARE MIGHTY CLEVER. GOT MORE BRAINS THAN MOST FOLKS GIVE 'EM CREDIT FOR! NOW LET ME EXPLAIN A FEW THINGS ABOUT A CATFISH'S PERSONALITY!

PERSONALITY? I NEVER FIGGERED A CAT WAS ANYTHING MORE'N JUST AN ORNERY FISH!

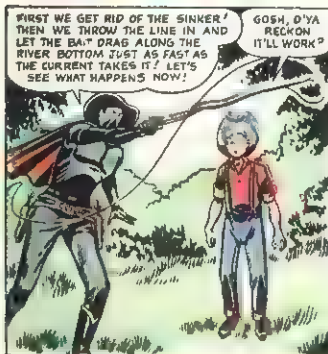


LET'S MAKE BELIEVE WE'RE A COUPLE OF BIG CATS ROUNDIN' N' ON THE BOTTOM OF THAT RIVER AND WAITING FOR CHOW! N THE FIRST PLACE, THE CAT KNOWS IT'S SPRINGTIME AND THE RIVER'S RUNNIN' PLENTY FAST! IF THE RIVER RUNS FAST THEN THE BA' HAS TO RUN JUST AS FAST!



THE BA' GOTTA LOOK MIGHTY NATURAL FOR THE CAT TO BITE! THIS SINKER HERE KINDA BLOWS DOWN THE DRAGGING ALONG THE BOTTOM AND MISTER CAT GETS SUSP CIOUS AND STEERS CLEAR OF IT!

GEE, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT MATTERED!



FIRST WE GET RID OF THE SINKER! THEN WE THROW THE LINE IN AND LET THE BA' DRAG ALONG THE RIVER BOTTOM JUST AS FAST AS THE CURRENT TAKES IT! LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS NOW!

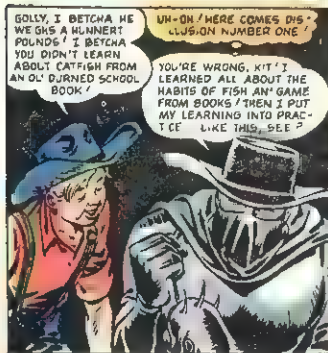
GOSH, O'VA RECKON IT'LL WORK?



A MINUTE LATER...

YOU GOT ONE! YOU GOT A REAL SPANKIN' WHOPPER! LAND HIM, BLACK R D E R!

HE'S IN THE FRYING PAN, KIT! HERE HE COMES!



GOLLY, I BETCHA HE WEIGHS A HUNNERT POUNDS! I BETCHA YOU DIDN'T LEARN ABOUT CATFISH FROM AN OLT' DURNED SCHOOL BOOK!

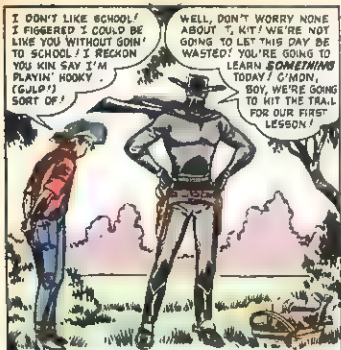
UH-OH! HERE COMES DIS-CLUSION NUMBER ONE!

YOU'RE WRONG, KIT! I LEARNED ALL ABOUT THE HABITS OF FISH AN' GAME FROM BOOKS! THEN I PUT MY LEARNING INTO PRACTICE LIKE THIS, SEE?



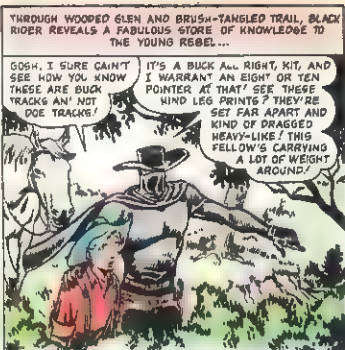
(GULP!) YOU REALLY MEAN IT, BLACK RIDER? YOU LEARNED ALL ABOUT THEM THINGS IN BOOKS?

SJURE D D, KIT! ANY DARN FOOL CAN LEARN BY H.T. AND MISS, BUT IT TAKES A SMART OB-SERVING FELLOW TO WRITE A BOOK! BY THE WAY, HOW COME YOU'RE NOT N SCHOOL TODAY?



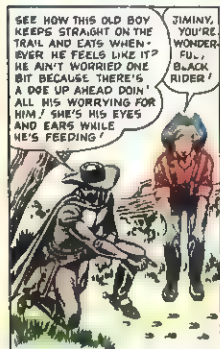
I DON'T LIKE SCHOOL!
I FIGGERED I COULD BE
LIKE YOU WITHOUT GOIN'
TO SCHOOL! I RECKON
YOU KIN SAY I'M
PLAYIN' HOOKY.
(GULP!)
SORT OF!

WELL, DON'T WORRY NONE
ABOUT 'T, KIT! WE'RE NOT
GOING TO LET THIS DAY BE
WASTED! YOU'RE GOING TO
LEARN *SOMETHING*
TODAY! O'MON,
BOY, WE'RE GOING
TO HIT THE TRAIL
FOR OUR FIRST
LESSON!



GOSH, I SURE CAN'T
SEE HOW YOU KNOW
THESE ARE BUCK
TRACKS AN' NOT
DOE TRACKS!

IT'S A BUCK ALL RIGHT, KIT, AND
I WARRANT AN EIGHT OR TEN
POINTER AT THAT! SEE THESE
WIND LEG PRINTS? THEY'RE
SET FAR APART AND
KIND OF DRAGGED
HEAVY-LIKE! THIS
FELLOW'S CARRYING
A LOT OF WEIGHT
AROUND!



SEE HOW THIS OLD BOY
KEEPS STRAIGHT ON THE
TRAIL AND EATS WHEN-
EVER HE FEELS LIKE IT?
HE AIN'T WORRIED ONE
BIT BECAUSE THERE'S
A DOE UP AHEAD DOIN'
ALL HIS WORRYING FOR
HIM! SHE'S HIS EYES
AND EARS WHILE
HE'S FEEDING!

JIMINY,
YOU'RE
WONDER-
FUL,
BLACK
RIDER!

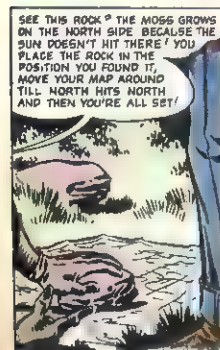


NOW HERE'S A ROUGH
MAP OF THIS TERRITORY!
RECKON YOU COULD
PLACE THIS MAP
RIGHT SIDE UP AN'
GET BACK TO TOWN
USING IT?

I DON'T..
THINK SO..
I CAN'T READ
A MAP!



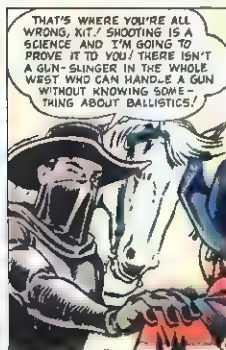
FIRST OFF YOU'VE GOTTA FIND
NORTH AND SET THE MAP UP
ACCORDINGLY! IF IT'S DAYTIME
YOU CAN FIND NORTH BY THE
SUN'S POSITION OR BY MOSS
ON A ROCK OR 'REE! AT NIGHT
YOU CAN FIND IT BY KNOWING
THE NORTH STAR OR EVEN
THE POSITION OF THE MOON!



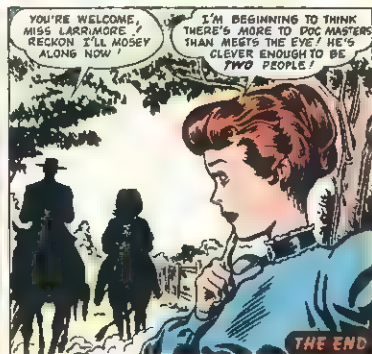
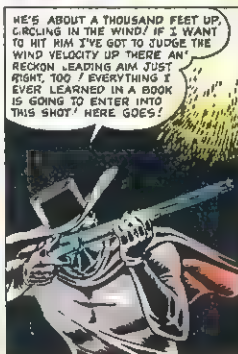
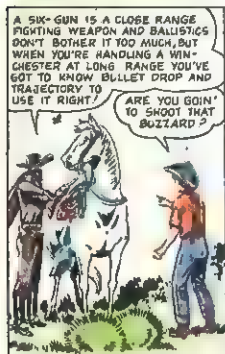
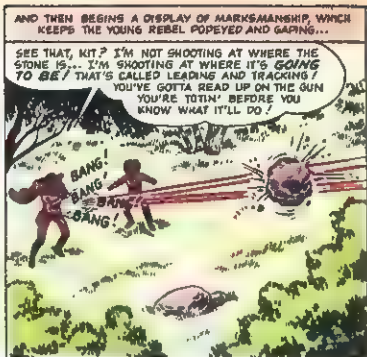
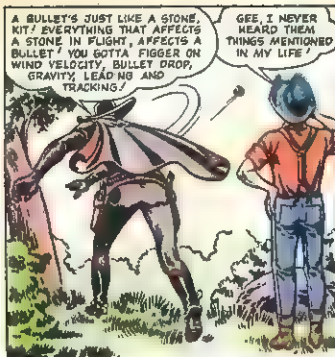
SEE THIS ROCK? THE MOSS GROWS
ON THE NORTH SIDE BECAUSE THE
SUN DOESN'T HIT THERE! YOU
PLACE THE ROCK IN THE
POSITION YOU FOUND IT,
MOVE YOUR MAP AROUND
TILL NORTH HITS NORTH
AND THEN YOU'RE ALL SET!



WELL, ANYWAY, YOU DON'T
NEED BOOKS TO TEACH YOU
HOW TO SHOOT STRAIGHT
AND FAST!



THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE ALL
WRONG, KIT! SHOOTING IS A
SCIENCE AND I'M GOING TO
PROVE IT TO YOU! THERE ISN'T
A GUN-SLINGER IN THE WHOLE
WEST WHO CAN HANDLE A GUN
WITHOUT KNOWING SOME-
THING ABOUT BALLISTICS!



Get 'em now, kids!

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for ALL OCCASIONS!

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| 2 | 3 Shot Aerial Repeating Bombs | .60 |
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| 2 | Buzz Bombs | .50 |
| 2 | 5 Shot Aerial Repeating Bombs | 1.00 |
| 3 | No. 3 Whistling Bombs | 1.05 |
| 2 | No. 4 Aerial Flash Bombs | 1.00 |
| 1 | Extra Heavy Aerial Bomb | 1.00 |
| 3 | No. 1 Aerial Flash Bombs | .75 |
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| 1 | Spangle Bomb | FREE |

Regular Retail Price \$9.10

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| 1 | Razooka Battery | 1.00 |
| 3 | Assortment Handle Fountains | .45 |
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| 12 | 20" Gold Sparklers | 1.20 |
| 1 | Swinging Moons | .65 |
| 12 | Red-Green-Fuller Fire Pots | .60 |
| 2 | No. 4 Colored Fountains | 1.00 |
| 20 | Colored Spray Sparklers | .50 |
| 1 | Flying Dutchman | FREE |

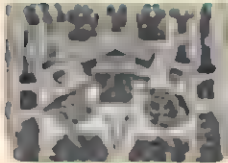
Regular Retail Price \$12.90 Your Cost \$6.95

- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| 144 | Tubular Flash Salutes | 5.70 |
| No. 2 Aerial Flash Bombs | .60 | |
| 50 | 2" Salutes | 1.00 |
| 1 | 3 Shot Aerial Spangle Bomb | .50 |
| 5 | Repeating Flash Salutes | 1.00 |
| 320 | Chinese Flycrackers | 3.00 |
| 2 | White Mules | .50 |
| 120 | Chinese Lady Crackers | FREE |
| 3 | 1 Shot Spangle Bombs | .60 |

Regular Retail Price \$12.90

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| 200 | Tubular Flash Salutes | 11.40 |
| 2 | 3 Shot Aerial Repeating Bomb | .70 |
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| 5 | No. 0 Aerial Bomb | .75 |
| 2 | Buzz Bombs | 1.00 |
| 100 | 2" Salutes | 2.00 |
| 1 | 3 Shot Spangle Bomb | .50 |
| 2 | No. 4 Aerial Bomb | 1.00 |
| 4 | Repeating Flash Salutes | .80 |
| 2 | 9 Shot Aerial Repeating Bombs | 2.00 |
| 4 | Spangle Bombs | .60 |
| 1 | Whistling Bomb | .55 |
| 320 | Chinese Flycrackers | 3.00 |
| 4 | Whistling Flyers | .60 |
| 2 | No. 1 Aerial Flash Bombs | .50 |
| 1 | No. 3 Aerial Flash Bombs | FREE |

Regular Retail Price \$26.90

YOUR COST
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- | | | |
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| 160 | Chinese Firecrackers | 1.50 |
| 24 | 8" Gold Sparklers | .30 |
| 2 | Colored Sky Rockets | .50 |
| 1 | Spangle Mine | .30 |
| 50 | 2" Salutes | 1.00 |
| 1 | Triangle Wheel | .35 |
| 2 | Colored Roman Candles | .70 |
| 350 | Chinese Lady Crackers | .50 |
| 1 | No. 3 Aerial Flash Bombs | .60 |
| 144 | Tubular Flash Salutes | 5.70 |
| 1 | 3 Shot Aerial Spangle Bomb | .50 |
| 10 | Colored Spray Sparklers | .50 |
| 3 | Red-Green-Fuller Fire Pots | FREE |
| 4 | Repeating Flash Salutes | .80 |
| 1 | White Mule | .25 |
| 2 | Bright Cones | .50 |
| 2 | Handle Fountains | .30 |

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THINK OF IT! I JUST MADE THIS RECORD WITH THE HOME RECORD MAKER!

IT'S SO SIMPLE! LET ME MAKE A RECORD

GEE BOB, IT WORKS GREAT!



Now you can make records of your singing, talking, reciting, or instrument playing right in your own home! No longer need the high price of recording machines or studio facilities prevent you or your family from hearing their own voice or playing. *No Experience Necessary.* Set up the **NEW HOME RECORD MAKER**, play, talk, or sing, and immediately you have a record which you and your friends can enjoy.

DADDY M-M-M-M



Record your child's voice catch those precious moments

IT'S AMAZINGLY SIMPLE!

Make records right in your own home by just singing, talking, acting, or playing a musical instrument into your own record player using a **NEW HOME RECORD MAKING UNIT**. This wonderful little unit records on the blank records furnished with your recording kit. No processing of the record required just make your recording and it is immediately ready for playback. **USE THE NEW HOME RECORD MAKER** with most any standard record player—hand winding, portable, radio-phonograph combination or electrical phonographs operating on either AC or DC.



Record jokes, imitations, voices and instruments — and play for happy happy memories. You can play new record at once! Give yourself, your family and friends a thrill! Records can be played back on ANY phonograph.

SING-PLAY-TALK

Have lots of fun! Record voices of seldom-seen but well loved friends and dear ones. Make greeting records: Birthday, Anniversary Greetings for your loved ones

USE YOUR NEW HOME RECORD MAKER any time and perform as comfortably as you'd talk on the telephone. Needs no special "recording technique" No experience necessary

The recordograph is an economical device for making home recordings to be used with a record player or radio-table.

WHAT DO I GET?

You get the complete unit needed to make recordings at home: Acoustic recording head, special recording needle, playback needles, 2 two-sided records (enough for 4 recordings), spiral feeding attachment and complete easy to follow directions



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Send entire **RECORD MAKING OUTFIT**, including 2 blank two-sided records.

- ☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman \$4.95 plus postage
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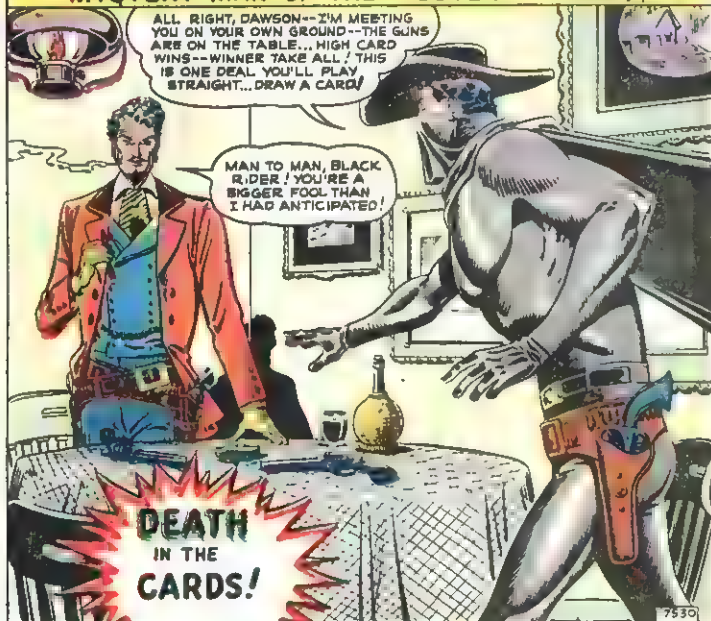
- ☐ I enclose \$4.95 send complete outfit postpaid.

LEAVE NO MONEY

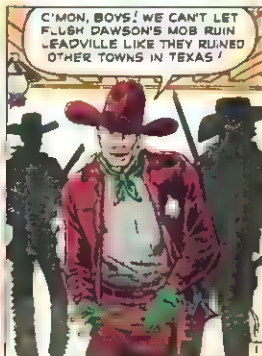
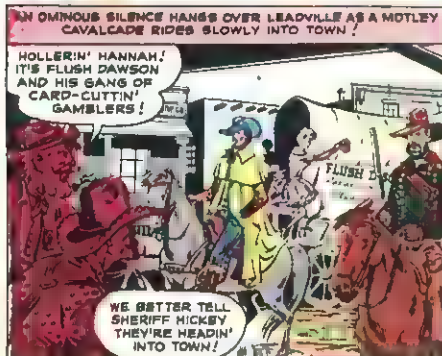
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Additional blank records \$2.00 per dozen (24 sides)

BLACK RIDER

MYSTERY MAN OF THE WESTERN RANGE!



7530



FOR TEN GRIM SECONDS, THE TWO GROUPS RIDE SLOWLY TOWARDS EACH OTHER WHILE TENSION MOUNTS--

WE'RE DOWNRIGHT GRATEFUL FOR THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE, SHERIFF! NOW IF YOU GET OUT OF THE WAY MY OUTFIT WILL CONTINUE INTO TOWN!

THAT'S WHAT I AIM TO PREVENT YOU FROM DOIN'! LEADVILLE'S A PEACABLE TOWN, DAWSON, AN' THAR AIN'T ROOM IN IT FER THE LIKES OF YOU!

I NEVER HEARD OF A LAW IN TEXAS TO PREVENT A MAN FROM OPENIN' A SALOON AN' GAMBLIN' HALL! MEBBE YOU CAN REFRESH MY MEMORY!

NO, THERE AIN'T NO LAW AGIN HONEST GAMBLIN'; BUT YOU AIN'T GOT A REPUTATION FER HONESTY, DAWSON! GET OUT OF TOWN, PRONTO!



I'LL GET OUT OF TOWN SHERIFF... WHEN YOU CAN PROVE I'M RUNNIN' A DISHONEST GAMBLIN' HALL!

YOU'RE A SLICK TRADER DAWSON! I RECKON YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH BRUSHES WITH THE LAW TO KNOW SOMETHIN' ABOUT IT! I'M LETTIN' YOU IN BUT ONE WRONG MOVE AND YOU'LL BE FLYIN' OUT!

BY YOUR LEAVE, SHERIFF! AN' I HOP WE'LL BE SEEN! THE COLOR OF YOUR MONEY IN THE DIAMOND ARROW! DROP IN ANYTIME!

I'LL BE AROUND MORE OFTEN THAN YOU'RE FIGGERIN' ON, DAWSON!



A WEEK LATER, THE SADDY, RAUCOUS GAMBLING DEN MUSHROOMS INTO A BEEHIVE OF BUSTLING ACTIVITY, FLEEING ITS CUSTOMERS UNDER THE HAWKLIKE SUPERVISION OF FLUSH DAWSON!

HOW'S THE TAKE TONIGHT, FALLON?

TERRIFIC! EVERY TABLE'S COININ' A MINT, AN' THE SUCKERS DON'T EVEN KNOW THEY'RE BEIN' TAKEN!



MEANWHILE, AT THE LATHROP RANCH.

DOC MASTERS, YOU'VE BEEN ASKING ME FOR A DATE FOR WEEKS! I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO SHOW ME A WONDERFUL TIME ON ONE CONDITION!



TAKE ME TO THE DIAMOND ARROW! I UNDERSTAND IT'S THRILLING AND FULL OF LIFE AND EXCITEMENT! WILL YOU TAKE ME?

THE DIAMOND ARROW? GULP... B-BUT THAT'S A GAMBLING DEN, MARIE! AND DECENT FOLKE DON'T GO THERE!



ALL RIGHT, MARIE! YOU'VE GOT YOUR HEART SET ON IT, SO I GUESS IT WON'T DO MUCH HARM TO VISIT THE PLACE!

OH, DOC! YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH MORE I THINK OF YOU FOR ACCEPTING! I JUST KNOW WE'LL HAVE A WONDERFUL THIS!





LATER THAT NIGHT...

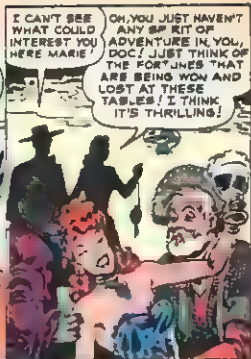
HE'S THE LOCAL SAW-BONES, FLUSH! BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN THE GAL BEFORE!

WHO'S THE GAL WITH THE HAY-SEED THAT JUST WALKED IN?



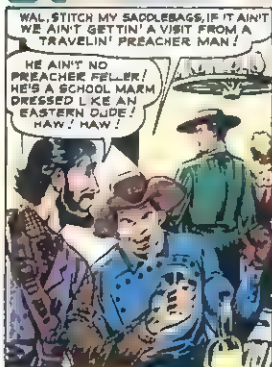
GET DOWN THERE AN' DRAW HIM AWAY FROM THE GAL, FALLON! I DON'T CARE HOW YOU DO IT, JUST SO I GET THE GAL FER MYSELF!

I'LL BIC SOME OF THE BOYS ON 'EM!



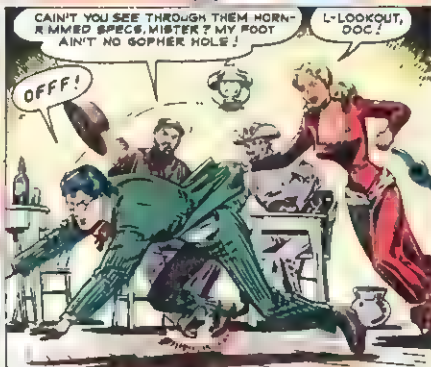
I CAN'T SEE WHAT COULD INTEREST YOU HERE MARIE!

OH, YOU JUST HAVEN'T ANY SP RIT OF ADVENTURE IN YOU, DOC! JUST THINK OF THE FORTUNES THAT ARE BEING WON AND LOST AT THESE TABLES! I THINK IT'S THRILLING!



WAL, STITCH MY SADDLEBAGS, IF IT AIN'T WE AIN'T GETTIN' A VISIT FROM A 'TRAVELIN' PREACHER MAN!

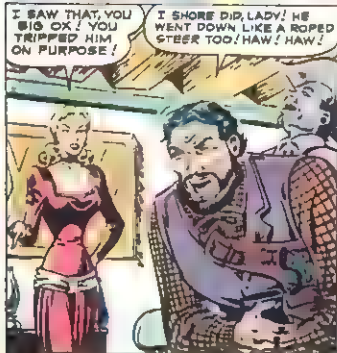
HE AIN'T NO PREACHER FELLER! HE'S A SCHOOL MARM DRESSED LIKE AN EASTERN DUDE! HAW! HAW!



CAIN'T YOU SEE THROUGH THEM HORN-RIMMED SPECS, MISTER? MY FOOT AIN'T NO GOPHER HOLE!

L-LOOKOUT, DOC!

OFFF!



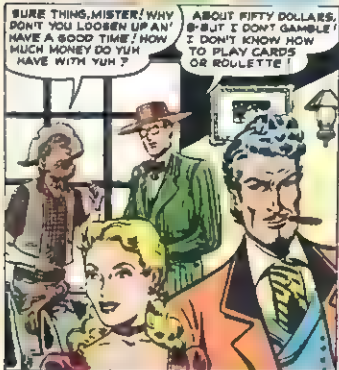
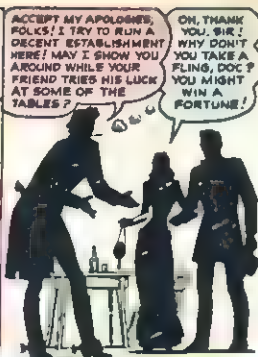
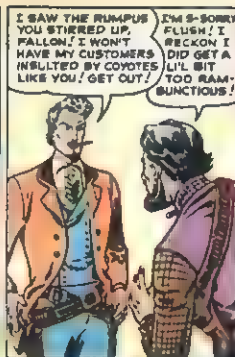
I SAW THAT, YOU BIG OX! YOU TRIPPED HIM ON PURPOSE!

I SHORE DID, LADY! HE WENT DOWN LIKE A ROPED STEER TOO! HAW! HAW!



YOU BIG FLATFOOTED BULLY! I'VE GOT A GOOD MIND TO HOG-TIE YOU AND BRAND YOU WITH MY OPEN HAND!

AN' I'LL BET YOU KIN SHORE DO IT QUICKER THAN THAT VALLER-L'VERED BOY FRIEND OF YORE N COULD! DON'T GET TOO RINSY WITH ME, LADY!



FIVE MINUTES OF ROULETTE AND DOC IS DIGGING INTO HIS MEASUR RESERVES!

ALL SET FOR THE NEXT PLAY/PLACE YOUR SETS, FOLKS! YOU WANNA TRY AGAIN, STRANGER?

Y-YES, IF YOU DON'T M'NO!

NOW DO I UNDERSTAND CORRECTLY? IF THE LITTLE BALL STOPS ON THE NUMBER I'VE SELECTED I WIN I'LL TAKE THIRTY-SIX ON THE RED!

YOU SHORE DO PARDNER HERE WE GO. GET YORE BETS DOWN FOLKS!

THE WHEEL SPINS, THE BALL HOPS, BOUNCES AND DANCES AND FALLS ON THIRTY-SIX RED!

THIRTY-SIX RED I WIN!

YOU LOSE, PARDNER! YOUR SET WAS THIRTY-SIX BLACK! THAR IT'S RIGHT ON THE BOARD, PLAN AS DAY!

I DEMAND YOU PAY ME MY WINNINGS! I DISTINCTLY PLACED MY SET ON THE RED!

TALK SLOW HOMBER ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY THE HOUSE CHEATED YOU?

THEY'RE A BANG OF CUT-THROAT CHEATS-- BUT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT AS DOC MASTERS!

IF YOU GOT A GUN DRAW IT, PARDNER! IF YOU AIN'T THEN GET READY TO BE HEAVED OUT ON YORE BIG GREEN EAR!

YES, YOU CHEATED ME

GET OUT AN' STAY OUT!

POOR DOC! IT WAS MY FAULT FOR TAKING HIM TO THAT PLACE!

I HOPE DOC MASTERS WASN'T HARMED, MR. DAWSON!
I'M SURE HE'LL RECOVER! A GAMBLING HALL IS NO PLACE FOR 'MID PEOPLE!

LATER... YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN HER FACE WHEN I TOLD HER THAT LILY-LIVERED BUZZARD MET WITH A SLIGHT ACCIDENT! HAW! HAW!

WE PICKED HIM CLEANER N A DOGS BONE 'HE DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE WHEN WE GOT GOING!

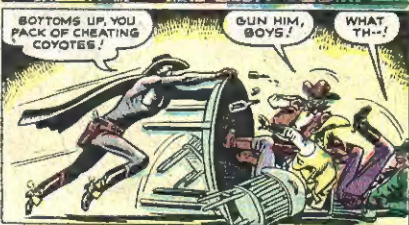


SUDDENLY THE LAUGHTER
DWINDES TO A HOARSE
WHISPER OF SURPRISE!



DAWGONE! LOOKS
LIKE SOME RANNY
DIPPED HISSELF IN
INK AN FELL INTO
THE WRONG
MASQUERADE
PARTY!
HAW! HAW!

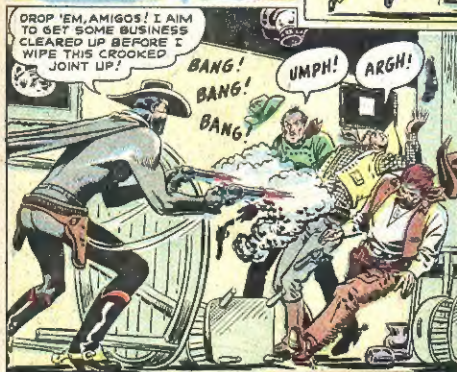
HE'S WEARIN'
GUNS TOO! NOW
LOOKOUT, BAD
MAN, ONE OF
THEM TOYS
MIGHT GO OFF!
HAW, HAW!



BOTTOMS UP, YOU
PACK OF CHEATING
COYOTES!

GUN HIM,
BOYS!

WHAT
TH--!



DROP 'EM, AMIGOS! I AIM
TO GET SOME BUSINESS
CLEARED UP BEFORE I
WIPE THIS CROOKED
JOINT UP!

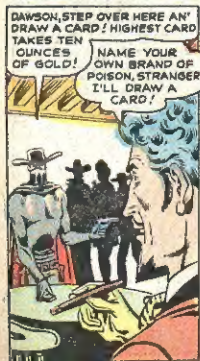
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!

UMPH!

ARGH!



DAWSON, GET YOUR TABLES
READY FOR SOME PLAY! I WANT
TO TRY MY LUCK! IF YOU'D RATHER
FIGHT, THEN DRAW NOW! IF NOT
LET'S DO SOME GAMBLIN'!



DAWSON, STEP OVER HERE AN'
DRAW A CARD! HIGHEST CARD
TAKES TEN
OUNCES OF GOLD!

NAME YOUR
OWN BRAND OF
POISON, STRANGER!
I'LL DRAW A
CARD!



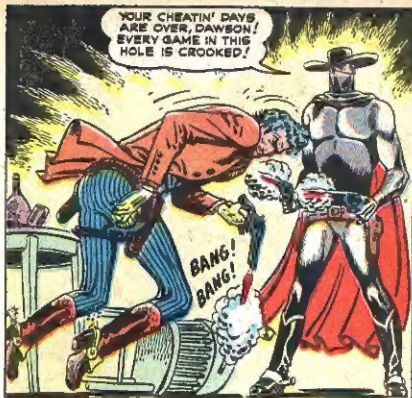
MINE'S A KING,
DAWSON, WHAT
HAVE YOU GOT?

JUST A MEASLY
BLACK ACE!
YOU LOSE,
STRANGER!



RECKON NOBODY CAN WIN WHEN
YOU'VE GOT A SLEEVE FULL OF
ACES, DAWSON!

WH--??! WHY
YOU...? I'LL
BLAST YOUR--



YOUR CHEATIN' DAYS
ARE OVER, DAWSON!
EVERY GAME IN THIS
HOLE IS CROOKED!

BANG!
BANG!



BANG!
BANG!
BANG!



YOU MURDERIN'
BLACK GHOST, I'LL--
ARGH!

BANG!

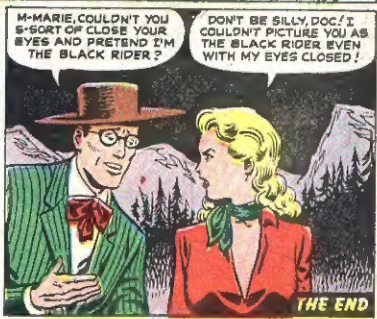
AN OLD COMANCHE
PROVERB SAYS THAT
A MAN SURROUNDED
BY RATS MUST HAVE
EYES IN HIS BACK!



LATE THAT EVENING...

ISN'T THIS A LOT BETTER
THAN VISITING A
GAMBLING HALL,
MARIE?

IT'S PERFECT, DOC.
THE EVENING WOULD
BE COMPLETE IF I
COULD SEE THE
BLACK RIDER
GALLOPING ACROSS
THE PLAINS OUT
THERE!



M-MARIE, COULDN'T YOU
S-SORT OF CLOSE YOUR
EYES AND PRETEND I'M
THE BLACK RIDER?

DON'T BE SILLY, DOC! I
COULDN'T PICTURE YOU AS
THE BLACK RIDER, EVEN
WITH MY EYES CLOSED!

THE END



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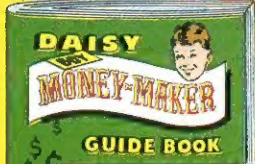
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